

Behrens



Memorials

Church

Administration and

Home Building

MAY 10, 1931

DEDICATION AND HOMECOMING

GEHMANS MENNONITE CHURCH

MAY 10, 1981

9:00 A.M. Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Devotions

Financial Report - Harvey Horning, Jr.

Recognition of People Involved

Message and Dedication - Luke L. Horst

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HOMECOMING FELLOWSHIP AND SERVICE

5:00 P.M. Fellowship Meal (Church Basement)

7:30 P.M. Song Service & Devotions - Irvin L. Martin

Poem - Composed and given by Edwin Weber

Testimonies

A Responsive Reading

Message - Noah Good

HISTORY OF GEHMANS MENNONITE CHURCH

- 1754 - 1758 - Mennonites first came to the Gehmans valley from Switzerland.
- 1760 - The congregation was probably organized this year, with services being held in private homes.
- 1846 - The first meetinghouse was erected across the road from the present building. The lot cost \$5.44. The building was of sandstone.
- 1894 - The congregation sang the first English hymn.
- 1913 - A new meetinghouse was built for \$1,564.67.
- 1915 - The first series of meetings was held with David Mosemann as the Evangelist.
- 1915 - The afternoon Sunday School was started.
- 1916 - The first Baptismal Services were held.
- 1919 - Sunday Evening Services were started.
- 1919 - Weekly Bible and Mission meetings held by this congregation were the beginning of the Reading Mission.
- 1925 - Services were not held over winter due to a chimney fire that caused \$200 damage.
- 1935 - The Mission Study Class started. This changed to Young People's Meeting in 1936.
- 1937 - Electric lights were installed.
- 1942 - The first Communion Services were held.
- 1946 - The first morning Sunday School was held, alternating with services at Allegheny.
June 14
- 1948 - The present building was remodeled for the first time.
- 1951 - Summer Bible School was started - meeting Monday and Wednesday evening for five weeks.

- 1952 - Gehmans Mennonite School was opened.
- 1954 - Morning services were discontinued at Allegheny and were begun weekly at Gehmans.
- 1956 - Silas Good was ordained to serve as Deacon.
- 1958 - Mary Gehman, missionary to Somalia, was the first member who served in foreign missions.
- 1959 - The Sunday School Library was started.
- 1963 - Rachel Mohler went to Honduras as a missionary.
- 1964 - Paul and Ella Martin went to British Honduras as missionaries.
- 1964 - Carl Martin was ordained to serve as Minister.
- 1965 - The present building was remodeled for the second time.
- 1970 - Prayer Meeting was started.
- 1972 - A kitchen was installed.
- 1973 - The present building was remodeled for the third time.
- 1975 - A Homecoming was held in May of this year.
- 1976 - A Laotian refugee family was sponsored.
- 1976 - Glen Martin was ordained to serve as Minister.
- 1976 - The present pulpit and benches were purchased.
- 1978 - David Mohler was ordained to serve as Deacon.
- 1979 - Additional land was acquired for the cemetery.
- 1979 - Bible verse was painted on sign along Rt. 272.
- 1980 - A second Laotian refugee family was sponsored.
- 1980 - Sunday morning services were started at Sill's Grove.
- 1980 - The present building was remodeled for the fourth time.
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